ESTABLISHED BY CONGRESS 17 MAY 1910

NATIONAL BUILDING MUSEUM 401 F STREET NW SUITE 312 WASHINGTON, DC 20001-2728 202-504-2200 202-504-2195 FAX www.cfa.gov

#### MEETING OF THE COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS

16 October 2003

**AM** 8:00 **CONVENE**, Suite 312, 401 F Street, NW, Washington, D.C. 20001-2728

#### I. ADMINISTRATION

A. Approval of minutes: 17 July 2003

18 September 2003 (meeting

canceled)

B. Dates of next meetings: 20 November 2003

18 December 2003 (optional)

15 January 2004

- C. Confirmation of the reappointment of Heather Cass, FAIA, to the Old Georgetown Board.
- D. Report and confirmation of the recommendations on the design of the Director of the United States Mint Medal and the design of the reverse of the 2004 nickel.
- E. Report and confirmation of the recommendation on the maquette of the Memorial to the Crew of the Columbia Orbiter. (Previous: CFA 19/Jun/03-2).
- F. Report and confirmation of the recommendation on the new lighting design for the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts.
- G. Report and confirmation of the recommendation on the design of the Peace Corps's logo.
- H. Report on the quality of night lighting on Pennsylvania Avenue between the Capitol and the White House (Pennsylvania Avenue National Historic Site).

#### II. SUBMISSIONS AND REVIEWS

### A. <u>Federal Highway Administration</u>

CFA 16/OCT/03-1, Pennsylvania Avenue, between 15th and 17th Streets, NW, and Jackson and Madison Places. Material samples. Final. (Previous: CFA 19/JUN/03-1).

#### B. <u>National Park Service</u>

CFA 16/OCT/03-2, Lincoln Memorial, West Potomac Park. Rehabilitation of the lighting. Concept.

### C. <u>Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority</u>

CFA 16/OCT/03-3, Metro canopy project. 53 locations, system wide. Standardized system to cover exposed escalator entrances. Final. (Previous: CFA 20/SEP/01-6).

#### D. District of Columbia Courts / General Services Administration

CFA 16/OCT/03-4, District of Columbia Old Courthouse, Judiciary Square, between D and E streets, NW. Additions and renovation. Concept. (Previous: underground parking garage: CFA 17/JUL/03- 10).

#### E. National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial Fund

CFA 16/OCT/03-5, National Law Enforcement Museum, Judiciary Square (Federal Reservation #7), E Street between Court Buildings E and C, and north of Old City Hall. Concept. (Previous: CFA 20/MAR/03-2).

#### F. The Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System

1. CFA 16/OCT/03-6, Eccles Building, Constitution Avenue, between 20th and 21st Streets, NW. Perimeter security barriers and guard booths. Concept.

### II. SUBMISSIONS AND REVIEWS, continued, 16 October 2003

2. CFA 16/OCT/03-7, Martin Building, C Street, between 20th and 21st Streets, NW. Visitor Screening Facility and perimeter security barriers and guard booths. Concept.

#### G. United States General Accounting Office

CFA 16/OCT/03-8, GAO Headquarters Building, 441 G Street, NW. Perimeter security barriers and guard booths. Concept.

#### H. General Services Administration

- 1. CFA 16/OCT/03-9, Department of Justice Main Building, Constitution Avenue, NW, between 9th and 10th Streets. Security gates for vehicular/courtyard entrances. Concept.
- 2. CFA 16/OCT/03-10, Environmental Protection Agency, East and West Buildings, 1200 Block of Constitution Avenue, NW. New landscape design and installation of demonstration Low Impact Development(LID) storm water management systems. Concept.
- 3. CFA 16/OCT/03-11, Environmental Protection Agency, Ariel Rios Building. Constitution Avenue and 12th Street, NW. New courtyard design and landscaping. Concept.

### I. <u>Department of Defense / Department of the Navy</u>

CFA 16/OCT/03-12, Washington Navy Yard, 11th and O Streets, SE. Security improvements to the O Street Gate and renovation of Building #126 for a visitor processing facility. Designs.

#### J. <u>Union Station Redevelopment Corporation</u>

CFA 16/OCT/03-13, Union Station Parking Garage, H Street, between 1st and 2nd streets, NE. Garage expansion. Concept. POSTPONED

### II. SUBMISSIONS AND REVIEWS, continued, 16 October 2003

### K. <u>District of Columbia Metropolitan Police Department</u>

CFA 16/OCT/03-14, Metropolitan Police Department Multifunction Facility, 2175 West Virginia Avenue, NE. New building. Final—revised design. (Previous: CFA 19/JUN/03-13).

#### L. District of Columbia Department of Transportation

CFA 16/OCT/03-15, Georgetown Historic District, Way-finding sign program. Concept.

### M. <u>District of Columbia Department of Parks and Recreation</u>

CFA 16/OCT/03-16, New Community Center, 2809 15th Street and 1480 Girard Street, NW. New four-story building. Concept.

# N. <u>District of Columbia Public Schools / U.S. Army Corps of Engineers</u>

- 1. CFA 16/OCT/03-17, Hardy Middle School, 1819 35th Street, NW (at Wisconsin Avenue). Additions and renovation. Final. (Previous: CFA 21/NOV/02-10 (O.G. 02-335)).
- 2. CFA 16/OCT/03-18, Woodson High School, 55th and Eads Streets, NE. Rehabilitation and alterations. Final. (Previous: CFA 20/ FEB/03-10).
- 3. CFA 16/OCT/03-19, Birney Elementary School. Martin Luther King, Jr. Avenue and Sumner Road, SE. New school building. Final. (Previous: CFA 15/MAY/03-9).

# O. <u>District of Columbia Department of Consumer and Regulatory Affairs</u>

#### 1. Shipstead-Luce Act

a. S.L. 03-138, 2025 F Street, NW, (Square 103), George Washington University. New 103-unit residence hall (dormitory). Concept. (Previous: S.L. 03-116, CFA 17 July 03).

### II. SUBMISSIONS AND REVIEWS, continued, 16 October 2003

- b. Confirmation of the approval of the 18 September 2003 Shipstead-Luce Act Appendix.
- c. Appendix I.

### 2. <u>Old Georgetown Act</u>

- a. O.G. 03-289, 1525 32nd Street, NW. New single family dwelling. Concept. POSTPONED
- b. Confirmation of the approval of the 18 September 2003 Old Georgetown Act Appendix.
- c. Appendix II.

#### III. INSPECTION

Freer Gallery of Art, Objects proposed for acquisition, confirmation.

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NATIONAL BUILDING MUSEUM 401 F STREET, N.W., SUITE 312 WASHINGTON, D.C. 20001-2728

202-504-2200 202-504-2195 FAX

24 October 2003

Dear Ms. Cass:

The Commission is pleased by your willingness to serve a second term on the Old Georgetown Board of Review and, as such, enthusiastically confirmed your reappointment during its public meeting of 16 October. Your service and dedication to the historic district has been exemplary. Your efforts in the protection of Georgetown's historic character has won warm support from both the Advisory Neighborhood Commission and the Citizens Association of Georgetown. Speaking on behalf of our members and staff, we all look forward to working with you over the next three years.

Sincerely,

David M. Childs, FAIA

Chairman

Donald A. Capoccia Vice Chairman

Ms. Heather Willson Cass, FAIA Cass and Associates Architects 1532 16<sup>th</sup> Street, NW Washington, DC 20036

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NATIONAL BUILDING MUSEUM 401 F STREET, N.W., SUITE 312 WASHINGTON, D.C. 20001-2728

24 October 2003

202-504-2200 202-504-2195 FAX

Dear Mr. Teirkari:

During its meeting of 16 October, the Commission reviewed the Federal Highway Administration's submission for the final selection of paving materials for the redesign of Pennsylvania Avenue between 15th and 17th Streets, NW, in front of the White House, and for Madison and Jackson Places, NW, to the east and west of Lafayette Square. The members found the granites selected for the monumentally sized pavers in the roadway and sidewalks to be appropriate for the avenue, whereas the aggregate paving material and the aggregate paving blocks were not acceptable. Both samples shown had a rather unpleasant color and coarse texture and, as we were informed, are still undergoing development to determine their final formula. Perhaps the mix, as suggested, could be made to appear less earth-like and brighter, having the appearance of a crushed stone surface which would be a better complement to the granite paving blocks.

In addition, without a plan of the avenue clearly indicating the locations of the different materials proposed during the presentation, the members were at a loss to envision the relationships and adjacencies of the different materials on the avenue. Having a clear detailed paving plan will be key to determining the appropriateness of each material. With the next submission, please forward a detailed, rendered paving plan.

The Commission looks forward to further review of this project as the final materials are developed. If additional test samples of the aggregate paving are installed elsewhere, we would appreciate the opportunity to conduct a site inspection. Please coordinate with the staff and, as always, they are available should you or the design team require guidance.

Sincerely,

Donald A. Capoccia Vice Chairman

Mr. Alan T. Teirkari
Federal Highway Administration
U. S. Department of Transportation
Eastern Federal Lands Highway Division
21400 Ridgetop Circle
Sterling, VA 20166-6511

cc: Michael Van Valkenburgh, MVV Assoc. Inc. Jack Van Dopp, FHW Dan Tangerlini, DC DOT John V. Cogbill, III, Chairman, NCPC William Dowd, NCPC Robert Baer, USSS

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Dear Mr. Carlstrom:

During its meeting of 16 October, the Commission reviewed a concept proposal by David Mintz of the Mintz Lighting Group, for the rehabilitation of the lighting at the Lincoln Memorial. Since the success of the relighting of the Jefferson Memorial, the members have been supportive of the National Park Service's desire to update and improve the lighting of the memorials and museums on the Mall. The current system used at the Lincoln Memorial is clearly in need of an overhaul, as it produces a varied and poorly-colored light that is unevenly distributed. The Commission thought Mr. Mintz's proposed scheme would be a welcome improvement. His goal to light the memorial's steps for the first time and to improve the interior lighting was met with enthusiasm. The only caveat to the proposal was a desire to maintain visually the three dimensionality of the exterior columns. This can be accomplished by carefully balancing the illumination on the face of the columns with that of the back wall so that they are fully modeled and not rendered flat.

The Commission looks forward to further review of this project. The next step in developing the new lighting scheme would be a mockup, just as was done at the Jefferson Memorial, to fully evaluate the effect of the new lights. We would appreciate the opportunity to conduct a site inspection when a mockup can be provided. Please coordinate with the staff and, as always, they are available should you or the design team require guidance.

Sincerely,

Donald A. Capoccia Vice Chairman

Mr. Terry R. Carlstrom Regional Director National Capital Region National Park Service 1100 Ohio Drive, SW Washington, DC 20242

cc: John G. Parsons, NPS
David Mintz, The Mintz Lighting Group

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NATIONAL BUILDING MUSEUM 401 F STREET, N.W., SUITE 312 WASHINGTON, D.C. 20001-2728

24 October 2003

202-504-2200 202-504-2195 FAX

Dear Mr. White:

In connection with its meeting on 16 October, the Commission made an inspection tour to the L'Enfant Metro Station to see the prototype canopy over the escalator entrance on the corner of Maryland Avenue and 7th Street, SW. The members were pleased with the quality of the canopy's construction and finish. While there were still a few minor details to be completed on that canopy, overall the structure was thought to be well executed. The design and fabrication teams should be commended for their efforts to maintain the original design's crisp appearance and simplicity. Not placing or incorporating signs on the canopy helps in that regard, too.

The only area of concern was that of cleaning. The members encourage Metro to develop a schedule for the periodic cleaning of the canopy, on both the top and under sides of the glass. This will be imperative to maintaining a welcoming appearance as one enters the Metro system.

As with the concept scheme, the members found the prototype to be complementary to the coffered design of the underground station and symbolically appropriate for the Metro System. The design of the canopy system was unanimously approved for installation on the balance of the station entrances with uncovered escalators (exclusive of the special locations previously identified). If the canopy system undergoes any additional changes as the implementation program progresses, we wish to be informed so as to assess the need for any further review.

Sincerely,

Donald A. Capoccia Vice Chairman

Mr. Richard A. White General Manager Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority 600 Fifth Street, NW Washington, DC 20001

cc: Ed Riley, AIA, WMATA/ENGA
John Thomas, WMATA/CONS
Joseph T. Triolo, WMATA
Michael Mc Bride, WMATA
Jon Lourie & Richard Chenoweth
Richard Houghton

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24 October 2003

Dear Mr. McGill:

During its meeting of 16 October, the Commission reviewed the proposed concept for the additions and renovation to the District of Columbia Old Courthouse located on Judiciary Square. The proposed pavilion respects the existing structure in its connection but both schemes should be reduced in mass. The height of the smaller pavilion allows it to overshadow the existing historic structure while the larger proposal draws too much attention with its roof configuration. The use of apparent "free-standing" columns in both proposals should also be reexamined.

The Commission continues to advocate a coordinated design solution for both the Old Courthouse and the National Law Enforcement Museum and requests that the applicants of both proposals work together to arrive at such a solution prior to further review of either project. As always, the staff is available should you require guidance.

Sincerely,

Donald A. Capoccia

Mr. Michael McGill Special Assistant for Regional Coordination US General Services Administration 301 7th Street, SW Washington, DC 20407-0001

cc: John Belle, Beyer Blinder Belle Hany Hassan, Beyer Blinder Belle Judge Wagner

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NATIONAL BUILDING MUSEUM 401 F STREET, N.W., SUITE 312 WASHINGTON, D.C. 20001-2728

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24 October 2003

Dear Mr. Floyd:

During its meeting of 16 October, the Commission reviewed the proposed concept for the National Law Enforcement Museum located on Judiciary Square. The revised concept is much grander than expected, with skylights that prevent access to the Old Courthouse building. The applicant is encouraged to pursue other options for day-lighting within the museum that do not require an elaborate bridge to provide necessary access to the principle entrance of the courthouse. In addition, the slanted roof of the proposed pavilions may not be compatible with the surrounding structures and should be reexamined.

The Commission continues to advocate a coordinated design solution for both the National Law Enforcement Museum and the Old Courthouse and requests that the applicants of both proposals work together to arrive at such a solution prior to further review of either project. As always, the staff is available should you require guidance.

Sincerely,

Donald A. Capoccia Vice Chairman

Mr. Craig Floyd
Chairman, National Law Enforcement
Officers Memorial Fund, Inc.
400 7th Street, NW, Suite 300
Washington, DC 20004

cc: Davis Buckley, AIA

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24 October 2003

Dear Mr. Elliott:

During its meeting of 16 October, the Commission reviewed and approved the proposed concept for the perimeter security of the Federal Reserve compound including the Eccles Building on Constitution Avenue and the Martin Building on C Street. As the design continues to evolve, the streetscape elements should have more continuity between buildings and every effort should be made to include the hardened elements in existing landscape structures. The design of additional guard booths should be sympathetic to the surrounding architecture and landscape.

The Commission looks forward to a site visit and the further review of this project.. As always, the staff is available should you require guidance.

Sincerely,

Donald A Capoccia Vice Chairman

Mr. Rick Elliott Federal Reserve Board 20<sup>th</sup> & C Streets, NW, MS 131 Washington, DC 20551

cc: Sonal Shah Parikh, Federal Reserve Board James van Sweden, OvS

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24 October 2003

Dear Mr. Walker:

During its meeting of 16 October, the Commission reviewed the concept design for the perimeter security barriers and guard booths at General Accounting Office's headquarters building at 441 G Street, NW. The Commission regrets the need for intensified and visible security measures for federal facilities, but we understand the necessity of the additional security and approved the concept submission. The Commission looks forward to further review of this project as the design develops and suggests that for the next submission additional details and materials samples, as well as a landscaping plan, be submitted. As always, the staff is available should you, your staff, or the design team require guidance.

Sincerely,

Donald A. Capoccia Vide Chairman

Mr. David M. Walker Comptroller General of the United States United States General Accounting Office 441 G Street, NW Washington, DC 20548

cc: Mallory S. Andrews, GAO Daniel E. Packa, GAO Ingrid Stead, GAO

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24 October 2003

Dear Mr. McGill:

During its meeting of 16 October, the Commission reviewed and approved the concept design for the proposed security perimeter upgrades at the Robert F. Kennedy Department of Justice Building located at 950 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW. The entrances affected by this proposal are the vehicular entrances mid-block along 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> Streets.

The members found the proposed security gates within the existing portals sympathetic to the historic fabric as well as meeting the security needs required for the building today. The development of the final details offer an opportunity to improve on the aesthetics of the existing barriers by the guard booths in front of the portals.

We look forward to the review of the final documents.

Sincerely,

Donald A. Capoccia

Mr. Michael McGill Special Assistant for Regional Coordination US General Services Administration 301 7th Street, SW Washington, DC 20407-0001

cc: K. Lamonte John, AIA - US Dept. of Justice Richard Kent, AIA - Smith Group Reshef Gabay - Smith Group

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24 October 2003

Dear Mr. McGill:

During its meeting of 16 October, the Commission reviewed the proposed concept for new landscape design at the Environmental Protection Agency including the 1200 block of Constitution Avenue, in front of the East and West Buildings and a courtyard of the Ariel Rios Building. While the Commission applauds the EPA for implementing the proposed ecological approaches and has no objection to the Constitution Avenue design, there were some concerns about the courtyard. The design should be simplified with an effort to make the patterning of planting and hardscape more formal while reducing the number of path materials and the diversity of plants.

The Commission looks forward to the further review of this project. As always, the staff is available should you require guidance.

Sincerely,

Donald A. Capoccia Vice Chairman

Mr. Michael McGill
Special Assistant for Regional Coordination
US General Services Administration
301 7th Street, SW
Washington, DC 20407-0001

cc: Ann Guillette, Low Impact Development Center Neil Weinstein, Low Impact Development Center

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NATIONAL BUILDING MUSEUM 401 F STREET, N.W., SUITE 312 WASHINGTON, D.C. 20001-2728

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24 October 2003

Dear Mr. Earle:

During its meeting of 16 October, the Commission reviewed and approved the designs for the security improvements to the O Street gate to the Washington Navy Yard. The design for the new security barriers and gates, with the three guard booths, is compatible with other recent security improvements found at other gates to the Yard. The accompanying rehabilitation of the nearby historic building #126 for a visitor processing facility makes good use of existing resources. The implementation of the project will enhance this entrance to the Yard.

Sincerely,

Donald A. Capoccia Vide Chairman

Mr. Lawrence P. Earle Department of the Navy Engineering Field Activity Chesapeake 1314 Harwood Street, SE Washington Navy Yard, DC 20374-5018

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24 October 2003

### Dear Chief Ramsey:

The Commission reviewed the design development for the Multifunction Facility building for the Metropolitan Police Department to be located at 2175 West Virginia Avenue, NE, during its meeting of 16 October. The members were happy to see that many of the powerful design elements that we liked so much during the concept review in June have been retained. However, the elimination of the returns of the parapets over the roof will give the impression of a colorful facade detached from the building it frames. As such, the Commission recommends that, if the design is going to succeed, the parapet returns shown in the approved concept should be incorporated in the final design.

The staff will be able to review the new drawings that reflect the proposed change. With the submission of the revised drawings, the project can be considered approved.

Sincerely,

Donald A. Capoccia Vice Chairman

Mr. Charles H. Ramsey Chief of Police Metropolitan Police Department Headquarters 300 Indiana Avenue, NW Washington, DC 20001

cc: Suman Sorg, Sorg Architects
John C. Stokes, P.E., CB Richard Ellis, Inc.
Kenneth Garrett, Project Manager, CB Richard Ellis, Inc.

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24 October 2003

Dear Mr. Tangherlini:

During its meeting of 16 October, the Commission reviewed the concept for the proposed Wayfinding Sign scheme for the Georgetown Historic District. We understand that the three proposed gateway signs will announce that one is entering Historic Georgetown. A number of other signs throughout the Georgetown Business Improvement District will help direct pedestrians to the major visitor sites. As such, the concept was well received.

However, in terms of the implementation of the signs themselves, more study is in order. In particular, the members feel simulated slate is not the appropriate material for the signs. A more traditional sign material will be more durable, easier to maintain and economical to produce when a replacement is necessary.

The placement and installation of the signs on the existing lampposts should follow local building codes for projections over public space to facilitate pedestrian flow and visibility. For names that are too long, the use of two lines of text will help in making the length of the signs more manageable and structurally more secure.

We look forward to the review of further design development at your earliest convenience. As always, the staff and the Old Georgetown Board of Architectural Review are available to assist you in this process.

Sincerely,

Donald A. Capoccia Vice Chairman

Mr. Dan Tangherlini Director, Department of Transportation 2001 14<sup>th</sup> Street, NW 6<sup>th</sup> floor Washington, DC 20009

cc: Karyn E. Good, Communications Manager, DDOT
 Michelle Pourciau, DDOT
 Ken Gray, Georgetown Business Improvement District
 Jeff Lee, LAI, Lee and Associates

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NATIONAL BUILDING MUSEUM 401 F STREET, N.W., SUITE 312 WASHINGTON, D.C. 20001-2728

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24 October 2003

Dear Ms. Franklin-Kelly:

During its meeting of 16 October, the Commission reviewed and approved the proposed concept for a new community center on the corner of 15th and Girard Streets, N.W. As the design evolves, the entrance should be more clearly-defined and welcoming to the community. Some additional patterning of brick and other materials may also minimize the apparent mass of the building from the park. Finally, there should be some consideration for the location of signs on the building.

The Commission looks forward to the further review of this project. As always, the staff is available should you require guidance.

Sincerely,

Donald A Capoccia
Vice Chairman

Ms. Lisa Franklin-Kelly Chief of Capital Projects Department of Parks and Recreation 3149 16<sup>th</sup> Street, N.W. Washington, DC 20010

cc: Michael Winstanley, Leo A. Daly Amy Oleinick, Leo A. Daly

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NATIONAL BUILDING MUSEUM 401 F STREET, N.W., SUITE 312 WASHINGTON, D.C. 20001-2728

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24 October 2003

Dear Ms. Woodhead:

During its meeting of 16 October, the Commission reviewed and approved the final designs for the rehabilitation and additions to the Hardy Middle School located at 1819 35<sup>th</sup> Street, NW in the Georgetown Historic District. We are happy to see the project move forward in conformance with the approved concept design reviewed last November.

The demolition of the existing gym and its replacement with a new gym addition, as well as the addition of additional classroom space will improve the school facilities to the present standards. The modifications to the site, including the athletic field and access stairs, will be an improvement over the existing conditions.

The final color for the replacement windows, as well as the material selection for the additions can be reviewed from a sample panel built on site prior to ordering materials. Please notify the staff as soon as the material sample panel is ready, so that we may organize an inspection by our Old Georgetown Board of Architectural Review.

Sincerely,

Donald A. Capoccia Vice Chairman

Ms. Sarah Woodhead DC Public Schools Planning, Design and Construction Penn Center 1709 3<sup>rd</sup> Street, NE - 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor Washington, DC 20002

cc: David Husson, DCPS William Levine, EYP

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24 October 2003

Dear Mr. Eichler:

The Commission reviewed the final design for the rehabilitation and additions to the Woodson High School, 55th and Eads Streets, NE, during its 16 October meeting and made a few recommendations to further improve the design. On the rear wall of the new academic wing, the members felt that even more windows (or larger windows) could be incorporated to relieve the large expanse of the flat wall, as had been suggested previously. The other area that should be reconsidered is the parking area and landscaping at the main entrance to the building. There seems to be sufficient room to reconfigure this area so that parked vehicles are not directly in front of the building. The parking spaces could be moved further away from the entry or relocated to other parking areas elsewhere on the school lot. This will allow for more green space at the entrance and a more welcoming appearance to those arriving at the school.

In addition, next to the main doorway, the plans indicated, but did not detail, a sculptural item that was to recall the school's "tower of power" theme. The creation of a sculpture for this area could be an opportunity for a design competition, either in-house or by invitation to local artists. Either way, this item is well worth additional consideration.

The Commission looks forward to further review of this project as the design is finalized. Please forward the revised drawings, including detail landscape plans, when ready. As always, the staff is available should you or the design team require guidance.

Sincerely,

Dotald A. Capoccia Vice Chairman

Mr. Herbert Eichler, P.E.
Chief, Military/SFO Section
Military/SFO Management Branch
Department of the Army
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Baltimore District
P.O. Box 1715
Baltimore, MD 21203-1715

cc: Sarah J. Woodhead, AIA, DCPS
Justina Nesbitt, U.S.Army Corps of Engineers
Conrad Judd, SHW Group, Inc.

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24 October 2003

Dear Mr. Eichler:

The Commission reviewed, during its 16 October meeting, the design for the replacement building for the Birney Elementary School, located at the corner of Martin Luther King, Jr. Avenue and Sumner Road SE, and made a several recommendations to further improve the design. The two areas that should be given additional consideration are on the street elevations; the materials selected for the curving wall at the main entrance, and the accent colors of the metal trim at the entrance and of the metal panels on the upper story.

The curved wall at the entrance, proposed to be made of stainless steel tubes and teak wood ribs, was felt to be unrelated to the balance of the other facade materials and of questionable durability. The members recommended this portion of the facade be restudied and a suggestion was made that, for this wall, the darker colored beige brick, in a simple stacked bond course, could be used. In addition, the members were concerned that the bright accent colors proposed for the metal frame of the doorway and canopy at the main entrance and the metal panels on the second floor were a bit too bright and would draw one's focus away from the intricately patterned brick in the building's principal walls. A selection of more muted colors in these areas would help to visually balance the overall composition.

The Commission looks forward to further review of this project as the design is finalized. Please forward the revised drawings, including detail landscape plans, when ready. As always, the staff is available should you or the design team require guidance.

Sincerely,

Donald A. Capoccia Vide Chairman

Mr. Herbert Eichler, P.E.
Chief, Military/SFO Section
Military/SFO Management Branch
Department of the Army
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Baltimore District
P.O. Box 1715
Baltimore, MD 21203-1715

cc: Sarah J. Woodhead, AIA, DCPS
Justina Nesbitt, U.S.Army Corps of Engineers
Geoffrey Lewis, AIA, Gauthier, Alvarado & Associates

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24 October 2003

Dear Ms. Honey:

During its meeting of 16 October, the Commission reviewed the proposed concept for a George Washington University residence hall to be located at 2025 F Street (S.L. 03-116). The site is located in an area which provides a transition from larger scale commercial construction to smaller scale neighborhoods. The Commission would be agreeable to a larger scale building, up to 120 feet in height, provided the design has a strength and appropriateness suitable to such height. The applicant is encouraged to pursue every avenue to reduce the apparent visual height of the structure including set-backs, material changes and overall design revisions.

The Commission looks forward to the further review of this project. As always, the staff is available should you require guidance.

Sincerely,

Donald A. Capoccia Vice Chairman

Ms. Michelle Honey, AIA
Director of Architecture, Engineering & Construction
George Washington University
2025 F Street, NW, Suite 215
Washington, DC 20052

cc: Richard A. Ayers, AIA, Ayers Saint Gross Architects